

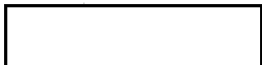
TOP SECRET

held back



25X1A

25X1A



Copy 6 of 15

10x 1965

The Honorable Alexander Flax
Director, National Reconnaissance Office
Department of Defense
Washington, D. C.

Dear Al:

The conclusion of a new MRO Agreement has caused us to examine the CIA organizational structure involved so as to assure ourselves that it will adequately support your office and its program. After careful study, we have decided to consolidate all of our satellite activities in the Office of Special Projects under Mr. John Crowley, and they will be responsible for CIA participation in COMINT, [redacted] and other projects as required. [redacted] [redacted] reconnaissance aircraft development and operations will be the responsibility of the Office of Special Activities under Brigadier General Jack Ledford, which will manage the U-2 and ORCA programs. The development of airborne electronic equipment is accomplished in the Office of ELINT under Mr. George Miller, but is responsive to the needs and program management of OSI. All of these offices report to the RD/OSI, who is Mr. Albert D. Vachon. [redacted]

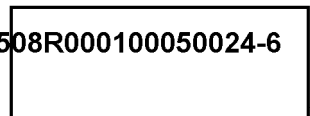
25X1A

25X1A

25X1A

25X1A

TOP SECRET



25X1A

 Page 2

All of this activity will come to a management focus in the person of a Director of CIA Reconnaissance Programs, who will report to the NSA/NSA. Admiral Raborn and I will count on this individual to keep us informed as the NSP as appropriate. This will provide you with a single authoritative point of contact within the CIA for all our programs. It will replace the present concept of a Program Manager and remove General Ledford of the responsibility for programs over which he has no real authority. In the future we will expect General Ledford to serve only in a line capacity as part of the CIA organization, in place of his present dual responsibility which has proved difficult to him and us. It is our desire that the CIA program within the NSP be so identified and that the Program B description of our activities be discontinued. I have designated to serve in the capacity as Director of CIA Reconnaissance Programs on an interim basis, and all correspondence or requests bearing on CIA participation in the NSP should be addressed to him. We would hope that working level contact with the NSP Staff and Messrs. Crowley, Ledford, Miller, would continue as before.

I believe that the implementation of these management steps will considerably enhance the ability of CIA to support the new NSP Agreement more effectively--an objective to which we are all pledged.

Sincerely,


 /s/
 Richard Helms
 Deputy Director

 cc: Mr. Vance
 Admiral Raborn
 Dr. Wheelon

Distribution:	Copies 1 & 2 - addressee	8 - D/DCI/NIPE
	3 - Mr. Vance	9 -
	4 - DCI	10 - ER
	5 - DDCI	11 - DD/S&T/Reg
	6 - DD/S&T	12 - DD/S&T/Reg
	7 - DD/P	

DD/S&T/ADWheelon:ef(30 Sept. 1965)

25X1A


Page 3

RECOMMENDED FOR SIGNATURE:

Deputy Director for Science and Technology

25X1A

TOP SECRET
